



United States Department of the Interior

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July 7, 2009

Instruction Memorandum No. AK-2009-027
Expires: 09/30/2010

To: All DMs, FOMs, DSDs, Authorized Officer, Office of Pipeline Monitoring, and Fire Management Officer (Division of Fire and Aviation)

From: State Director

Subject: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-Alaska National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements and Recommendations

Program Area: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) contains information on implementing requirements and recommendations regarding NEPA compliance in Alaska for the purpose of improving NEPA processes for BLM-Alaska.

Policy/Action: All BLM-Alaska offices must follow the attached requirements regarding NEPA compliance actions and NEPA document preparation. Implementation of the requirements shall begin immediately. While not strictly required to comply with provisions of NEPA, offices will improve their NEPA processes by following the recommendations outlined in the report. The requirements and recommendations are noted in Part IV: Findings, Observations, Requirements and Recommendations of the attached report.

Timeframe: The Action Items will be implemented within the specified timeframe, as outlined in Part VI: Action Items.

Budget Impact: There are no budget impacts.

Background: BLM-Alaska conducted a NEPA Program Evaluation in March 2009 at the Anchorage and Fairbanks District Offices and the Office of Pipeline Monitoring. The evaluation included a review of each office's NEPA Register, evaluation of 39 NEPA documents (EA, CX and DNA), interviews with 26 employees, and a NEPA training questionnaire received from 52 employees.

The Evaluation results are summarized in the attached BLM-Alaska NEPA Evaluation Report. The report includes requirements and recommendations regarding NEPA practices that were developed following the evaluation, as well as a list of future action items.

Contact: Jolie Pollet, BLM-Alaska Supervisory Planner and Environmental Coordinator, 907-271-5546, for additional information.

Signed by:
Thomas Lonnie
Alaska State Director

Authenticated by:
Anita R. Jette
Records Specialist

[Attachment](#)